LESSON 1 How You Hear

**Outer ear** The outer ear is the part of the ear that you can see. It gathers sound waves from the air and funnels them toward the eardrum.

**Eardrum** The eardrum is a thin flap of skin that vibrates when sound waves hit it. It passes the vibrations to the middle ear.

**Middle ear** The middle ear contains three tiny bones that pick up vibrations from the eardrum. The bones pass the vibrations to the inner ear.

**Inner ear** The inner ear has coiled tubes filled with fluid. Vibrations from the middle ear make the fluid vibrate. This causes nerve cells to send signals to the brain.